

WORK SESSION
JUNE 11, 2018

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Washington, Georgia, held their regular monthly Work Session on Monday, June 11, 2018, beginning at 3 PM at the Pope Conference Center. Mayor Ames Barnett presided.

Present were: Mayor Barnett and council members Armour, Armour, Cullars, Mahoney, Scarborough and Tutt. Also present were City Administrator Bailey, City Clerk Danner and City Attorney Fleming.

Visitors included Charles Jackson, Kendra Dill, Sharon Jones, Marcus Dill, Alvin Jones, Judy Anderson, Mary Burt, Ann Tanner, Carrie Gresham, Sim Dill, Evans Moore, Robbie Hardigree, Jack Heard, Annie R. Wilkinson, Hattie Callaway, Hilda Wright, Loretta Fanning, Deputy Adam Posey, Bertrina Ivey and Sparky Newsome of the News Reporter.

MAYOR'S TOPICS: Mayor Barnett advised that he would seek approval for the following appointments during the regular meeting of council: Council member R. Armour to replace Henry Harris on the Health Department Board; reappoint Ed Pope III to the PDA and to also reappoint John Keen to the URA. Mayor Barnett advised that he had appointed Barbara Burns to the Housing Authority Board to replace Ann Stewart who had resigned.

URA/SHARON JONES: URA Board Member Sharon Jones requested that council approve a land swap with the URA concerning the Gordon Street School property. Jones requested on behalf of the URA that the city swap the fieldhouse to the URA and that the city take over the tennis court property. The fieldhouse property would fit into the URA's planning for an amphitheater.

City Attorney Fleming advised that a land swap between two governmental agencies is permissible. Council will consider this at their August meeting.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: Administrator Bailey reviewed with council a proposed update to the city's personnel policies that will reflect the July 1, 2018 change in law which requires hands free use of cell phones while driving vehicles.

Bailey reported a request for the use of the square on July 26, 2018, for the annual WW Tiger Ironman competition.

Bailey reported that all FEMA paperwork had been completed and submitted on the Hurricane Irma cleanup. Expected reimbursement is some \$92870.00.

Bailey reviewed with council the final 2017 budget amendments needed to complete the 2017 audit prior to audit submission to the state by the June 30, 2018, deadline.

Bailey reviewed with council the resolution adopting the 2018 CHIP Personnel Policies and Procedures. It was noted that there are two sections of this grant: the city will build four new houses on Norman Street and Hands on Washington will be in charge of the owner occupied rehab of homes. Community Development Manager Marcus Dill spoke to council on the URA plans for the Gordon Street School property.

CITY ATTORNEY UPDATES: City Attorney Fleming advised council of an upcoming MEAG Bond Validation which requires no action by council. This will allow MEAG to get better financing rates.

Fleming reviewed with council a proposed update of Code of Ordinances Chapter 10 concerning Animals as requested by Building Official Toto. There are no major changes but clarifies and defines restrictions on breeding animals, kennels and impounding.

Fleming also reviewed with council the GMA Bricks and Mortar program for the financing of the Fire Department rehab. Bids were received with only one bank willing to finance for the 15 year period requested by the city. There will be a special called meeting to approve this bid at a later date.

COUNCIL UPDATES:

CULLARS: Council member Cullars asked at the May meeting for updates on the cost of the square project, community garden project, mold abatement at city hall and the fire department rehab. The total cost of the square project was \$81,957.04 – noting that the fountain was purchased by the DDA; the community garden cost was \$7889.64 with the city now only cutting the grass at the school; the

mold and asbestos abatement in the basement of city hall was a 2014 insurance claim in the amount of \$87371.00; and the fire station has a projected savings of some \$262946.00 by using prison labor and other savings through material and services donations.

Cullars further discussed his displeasure with the road conditions in the Old Skull Shoals area from the recent CDBG sewer line project in that area.

MAHONEY: Council member Mahoney also voiced displeasure with the Harper Street and School Street condition in relation to the CDBG sewer project. Mahoney requested that a meeting be scheduled with Project Manager Anne Floyd of the CSRA RC to discuss this matter.

Mahoney expressed that he would like for any project over \$10,000 to be bid out and that all local contractors be notified of upcoming bid projects and further that a certain percentage of bid projects go the minority contractors.

Attorney Fleming advised that the CDBG contract allows one year from completion the project for the city to file claim for defective workmanship.

Work Session adjourned at 3:57 PM.

_____MAYOR

_____CLERK